

**ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE**

A system for providing access to a plurality of data media contained in a data storage system is provided. The data storage system comprises a plurality of media storage devices for storing the plurality of data media, a data exchange device for exchanging data stored on the plurality of data media, and a media handling system for transferring the plurality of data media between the plurality of media storage devices and the data exchange device. The system comprises a bulk access apparatus configured to cover a plurality of openings in the data storage system. Each of the plurality of openings in the data storage system provide access to one of the media storage devices. The system further comprises a locking mechanism configured to provide a first state in which the bulk access apparatus is locked to the data storage system and in which access to the plurality of openings is restricted, and a second state in which the bulk access apparatus is not securedly attached to the data storage system and access to the plurality of openings is provided.